



Fire Chief Steve Earley  
3085 St. Lawrence Ave  
Riverside CA 92504  
951-826-5321  
[www.riversideca.gov/fire](http://www.riversideca.gov/fire)

# the General Alarm

May 2012

**FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS**

## Get Fit Contest

At the City Wellness Fair in May, the winner of the 2012 Departmental Get Fit Challenge was announced. Taking 1st place for averaging 3.97% body weight loss was the RFD Team!!! The program took place between Feb 2 and April 26 with a grand total of 1969.4 pounds lost by all the participants.

The team members were:

Carol Blake  
Carol Crouch  
Norma Pagan  
Robert Valdez

David Nash  
David Hernandez  
Jim Ryan

Dave Lesh  
Misty Finney  
Shari Call

Pat Gabler  
Robert Abbruzzese  
David Olivas

Pat Gabler took 2nd Place for overall weight loss!!!

The trophy is located at Fire Administration! Join us in congratulating Pat and our team!!!







# the General Alarm



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**Email from FF/PM Joe Reed to RFD Personnel on May 13:** All RFD personnel, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all the RFD personnel and the RFD union for the support you all have given me and my family during my Naval career. As I close the books on my Naval career, I would like to invite you all to my retirement ceremony on June 9th 2012, at the Naval Reserve Center in Moreno Valley. I have attached an invitation with details, if you are able to make it. Thanks again from me and my family.

**Email from recent CERT graduate Carol Townsley to Norma Pagan on May 21:** Please pass on my thanks to all the instructors at last weekend's training class. I truly enjoyed the class and learned a lot of useful information. The instructors were excellent and have inspired me to continue CERT training. Also, after our outdoor training when we were helping the disaster victims, I realized that I need to become more physically fit if I am to be more capable of helping people. So the class also inspired me to begin my own physical fitness program to make me stronger. I am looking forward to attending more of the training classes.

**Email from BC Koury to DC Esparza on May 23:** Chief, I want to make you aware of the crew on Rescue 3, B-shift going above and beyond to complete a project to assist the Training dept. Capt. Scott Wilson, Eng. Brian Davis and FF Matt Mathis went to the training tower at 17:38 this evening to work on the pitched roof prop which has been out of service. The prop needed a major rebuild to make it safe and ready for continued action. Eng. Davis and FF Mathis assigned to RSQ3 have been involved in the US&R Technical Search Specialist class this week so RSQ3 was out of service during the day today. After class, Capt. Wilson drove Rescue 3 to the tower, met with Davis and Mathis and for the next two hours in a move-up status to sta. 10, completed the rebuild and repairs to the prop. This is in addition to doing the same thing our last shift on Monday where Capt. Wilson, Eng. Davis and FF Lavin completed work on the prop for two hours. This is a demonstration in dedication and commitment to the task they accepted knowing that the prop was out of service until they rebuilt it. The prop is now completed and ready for training.

These individuals understood the importance of completing the task and I am very proud of them for their work ethic and commitment to this project.





## Birthdays



May 2012

## Victory in Palm Springs Tournament



The RFD Softball Team won 1st place in this year's Palm Springs Tournament on April 14 and 15. A few weeks later the team made it to the quarterfinals of the Las Vegas Tournament losing to San Bernardino County



### June Birthdays

Margaret Albaneze	6/17
Keith Anderson	6/20
Milton Caceres	6/16
Anthony Coletta	6/21
Nick Faraclas	6/8
David Gilstrap	6/29
Shawn Haney	6/23
Bruce Harter	6/17
Thomas Henritze	6/20
Michelle Jackson	6/23
Ryan Kaessner	6/16
Craig Kodat	6/8
Matt Mathis	6/12
Tracy McKibbin	6/26
Bill Milligan	6/29
Nick Navarro	6/16
Crispin Nunez	6/20
Raymond Orozco	6/19
Quentin Priddy	6/8
Mike Reynaud	6/16
Matt Rodriguez	6/10
Paul Seawright	6/1
Josh Tronaas	6/2
Jim Weber	6/13
Ralph Wilson	6/26

## Growing Families



Congratulations to Paul Seawright and his wife on the birth of their daughter, Ashlynn Noel Seawright, on May 3 at 7:26pm. She weighed 7 lbs 5 oz and was 20" long.



## Training News

May 2012

**Vance Newell Class:** Retired RFD Battalion Chief (and now RCC instructor) Vance Newell took his class to Citrus Tower on May 16 where Steven Payne, Margaret Albanese and our Intern Kristina Mlynarski educated them on some Fire Prevention items.



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**Cert Class 42:** The Office of Emergency Management held a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training academy on May 18, 19, and 20. This 20 hour class teaches students how to perform search and rescue, fire extinguishers, basic first aid and disaster preparedness. For more information check out [www.readyriverside.com](http://www.readyriverside.com)

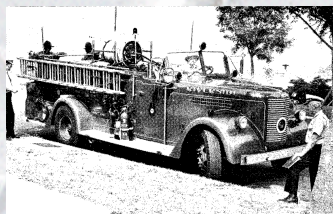
**Golden Guardian Drill:** During the week of May 14-18 the "Golden Guardian Exercise" will be taking place, in order to evaluate the EOC, Fire Department, and other departments within the city, a simulated earthquake in southeastern Riverside County will occur. The damage to the surrounding areas will be significant and will impact Riverside City.





## Blast to the Past

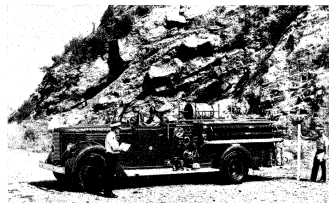
Captain Bruce Vanderhorst suggested that we periodically include a section in the newsletter that illustrates our department in the early years. Bruce found this article on Ebay. It dates back to 1968. If anybody else has any old articles they would like to share, please scan them in pdf and send them my way.



(Left) "Downhill Park at Curb". Note: Wheels must be fully turned into curb. For uphill park, wheels are turned away from curb.

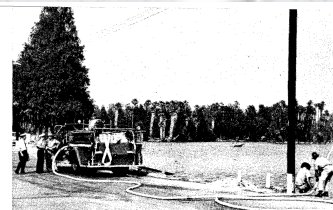
(Below) "Depth Perception — Rear". After backing through a gate or other close area, he must back his truck so that the left rear corner of tailboard comes as close as possible to the upright board without touching same. At the same time, his truck must be aligned according to instructions given.

(Below, center) "Handling Truck on Sharp Curves and Street Grades".



(Below) "Connecting and Pumping from Hydrant Using Soft Suction Hose". This is done at least once on each side of truck. At the same time, he is questioned regarding hydrant supplies, mental hydraulic formulas, etc.

(Right) "Drafting Operation". He is allowed one helper on this job; however, he must give the orders for every operation. The helper only does what he is told. The use of the transfer valve and relief valve is performed during this portion of the test. Also, the candidate is given various trouble shooting problems to solve.



**T**HE Riverside, California, Fire Department reports on a program that, in the staff's opinion, provides a solution to a long-standing problem in the fire service.

Chief Burney L. Montgomery states that for years the Riverside Fire Department has been looking for a method of upgrading the performance of fire engineers (pump operators) and an improved method of testing the practical knowledge and ability of a candidate for promotion to this position.

## Driver Certification for

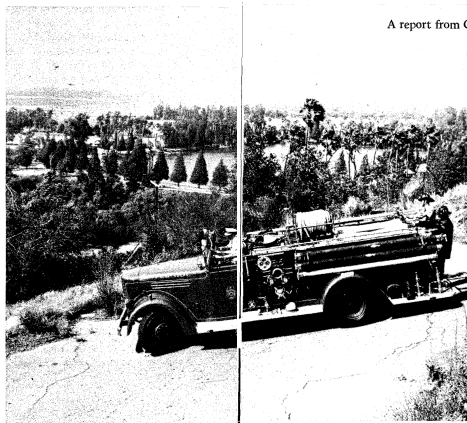
In the Riverside Fire Department, as in others throughout the country, there has been concern about the qualifications of men asked to serve in relief as engineers. Insurance grading engineers are quite critical of relief drivers, since they may not be sufficiently qualified to serve, even on a temporary basis. We are all aware that in most fire departments it is necessary to use relief or temporary personnel from time to time, and it is our responsibility to have trained men for every position.

A further problem faced by most fire departments is how to test a promotional candidate in the mechanics of driving and using fire apparatus. It is questionable that any mechanical test can be devised that will give a true evaluation of a man's ability to handle a complex piece of

equipment in the variety of situations a fire truck is required to operate, and to do this testing in the very short time allowed for a promotional exam.

The Riverside Fire Department recently developed a driver certification program which, Chief Montgomery believes, has great merit. In order to become certified, a fireman must have certain qualifications. First, he must have completed at least one and one-half years of service with the department. He must have enough training to qualify for the position, by attending fire science college courses and by on-the-job training.

When the engine house captain feels the man is qualified, he submits a request for certification to the Training Division. The candidate is then given a written examination covering fire service



## Riverside, California Firemen

A report from Chief Burney L. Montgomery, Riverside Fire Department

hydraulics, pump operation, care and maintenance of equipment, technical data of fire pumps and apparatus, streets, rules and regulations, and department policy.

If the candidate achieves a passing grade on the written test, he is scheduled for a practical examination. The practical test is observed by the Chief of the Training Division and a pre-assigned suppression Captain conducts the tests and evaluates the man.

The practical examination includes street driving, hill driving, obstacle course, parallel parking, and backing the vehicle, testing in pump operation, hose evolutions, and mental formula hydraulics as they apply to standard nozzle tips, distributors, cellar nozzles, ladder pipes, standpipes

Aerial Tractor; Class IV, Aerial Trailer; Class V, Tankers.

The program of certifying capable relief drivers has developed such a high level of training with correspondingly high testing standards that the "Certification" has been accepted by the City Personnel Department in lieu of the practical test on the promotional examination for engineer.

Since the program has now been in effect long enough for all eligible men to have had the opportunity to be certified, only certified men are eligible to take the promotional examination for the position of fire engineer. The examination now consists only of written and oral portions.

Chief Montgomery and his staff are enthusiastic and satisfied with the results of the program.



## Dodson Haz Mat Response

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The haz mat team on C shift responded to a haz mat with Station 1 and 4 units on May 18 (Dodson Incident). Fire crews worked well with the haz mat team performing initial gross decon and medical aid and later assisting with decon of the entry team. Inspector Munoz also responded to assist in prevention compliance and cost recovery. A job well done with team effort.





**Arlington** Business Partnership **PRESENTS**  
 Riverside's 10th Annual  
**CHILI COOK-OFF & CAR/CYCLE SHOW**  
 May 26th 2012 - 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 On Magnolia Ave from Van Buren to Jackson in the Arlington Village

Car Show Kids Fun Beer Garden Refreshments Craft Fair Food Entertainment

**HOT LIKE CHILI!**

**CONTEST FOR LOCAL COOKS!**

Charter Milestones.com MB2 ACCESS Just4Kids

For more information about the event go to [www.riversideabp.com](http://www.riversideabp.com) or call 951-509-1100

# the General Alarm



**May 2012**

On May 26, E2A and ten Fire Explorers attended the annual Chili Cook Off on Magnolia between Van Buren and Donald. Thousands of people visited the event and stopped by the Fire Safety House and E2 to ask questions and receive their badge stickers. It was an amazing turnout. Explorers did a fantastic job showing kids through the Safety Trailer.

In addition, Captain John Peurifoy participated in the Chili Cook Off. Because of the large crowds and apparently the good taste, John's ten pots of chili were gone within a few hours. Good job!





# PHOTO ALBUM

## the General Alarm



May 2012

**Muster Time:** Fire crews participated in the annual mini-muster at McAuliffe Elementary School on May 24



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Left: Truck 1 and Riv Co Truck 17 assisted at the annual Peace Officer's Memorial Ceremony downtown.

Above: Downtown Station crews assist on a rescue/medical aid on Mt. Rubidoux





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## PHOTO ALBUM (CONT)

May 2012

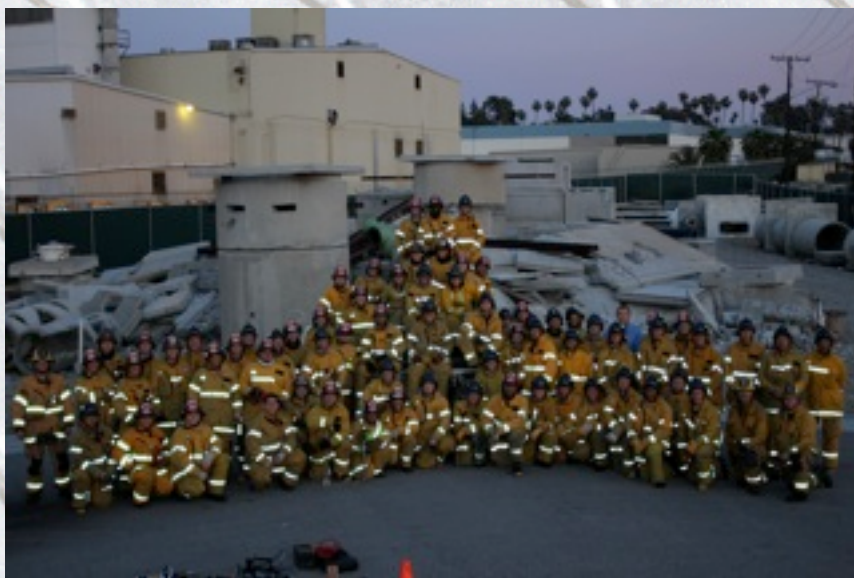


Angel 5K: Dave Olivas and Anthony Frausto, along with family and friends, participated in this year's Angels 5K on April 22.

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**Extrication Training:** Jeff Lewis set up a hands-on extrication class for explorers on April 18. E5B and S5B taught the class





May 2012

## PHOTO ALBUM (CONT)

Right: Jefferson Elementary School visits Station 5 for a tour.



Left: BCs Blair and Wesche and Cpt Tyler Stanford pre-plan for the quarterly USAR drill held at Ben Clark Training Center



Right: Haz Mat personnel attended the quarterly CHOG drill on May 23 at Ben Clark Training Center. WMD dispersion devices, sampling, and BIO WATCH were the topics covered.





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## RETIREMENT PARTY PICS



Left: Dave Campos with his family; Below: Oran Pentz with old RFD friends



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**Climb for Five:** There is still time to support this amazing fundraiser for St. Baldricks Foundation. Matt Mathis and Dave Lesh will be climbing Mt. Elbrus in Russia to raise \$5000 each for cancer research and honoring the St. Baldrick's Childhood Ambassadors. You can donate at [stbaldricks.com/participants/mattmathis](http://stbaldricks.com/participants/mattmathis) or [stbaldricks.com/participants/davelesh](http://stbaldricks.com/participants/davelesh). Matt Mathis has organized a fundraiser at the Riverside Plaza's California Pizza Kitchen on June 20th.